

Grangeville, Idaho
Nov, 21 2005

Bureau of Land Management
Mr. Brian Amme
Reno, Nevada

Response to BLM management plan for central Idaho

Dear Sir:

My comments are based on having lived in Idaho County 85 years, near the Nezperce NF, worked for the Forest Service, worked 10 years for Potlatch Forest Inc, in logging operations, I am very interested in the management of the Wild Life on our Public Lands.

Comments:

Dead, and down timber should be removed by mechanical means rather than burning and the product if not merchantable should be used for fuel to generate electricity.

Prescribed fire should not be used as a management tool. The smoke is harmful to our health, bad for recreation and tourism, down grades the beauty of our once clean air State.

Prescribed fire is non-selective in what kind of trees it kills, each year many prescribed fires escape and cost millions to contain plus the loss of millions of feet of timber not intended to burn.

Prescribed fire is generally associated with big game habitat, it is never stated how much effect it has on small animal habitat, Small Forest animals killed or nesting birds.

Prescribed Fire has too many negative effects to be a good tool to use. To maintain a Healthy Forest we need more access and frequent visits to remove dead and dying trees, head off bug infestations when they are first starting. This means more access roads are needed to accomplish these projects.

FISH ROADS AND SEDIMENT:

Road building has been obstructed by the false charges of the effect of sediment on fish. The BLM should investigate the History of the South Fork of the Clearwater-- Fish and Sediment. They will find that from 1860 to 1940 there was an abundance of fish in the river and that was the period when placer mining was at its peak. Since mining has almost ceased, (1940) the bag limit has changed from 35 to 2. Some Biologists claim that along with sediment, come nutrients that fish thrive on.

I believe that 80% of the people are conservationists that want to see our timber lands managed and not wasted with bugs and fire.

Our Forest Land was put here for us to use and enjoy, not to waste. Although I am too old to take part in the Family sport of ATV's, I feel strongly that the BLM should consider this new activity as an opportunity to do something for the Public, and not problem, by providing quality places for them to ride.

Thank you for reading my comments,



Donald F. Morrow

Please put me on mailing list for updates, no EIS info.